

Message Text

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ORIGIN SCS-06

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 003669

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC(RICH, WALTER E.)

SUBJECT: W/W WALTER E. RICH

REF: (A) STATE 310123 AND PREVIOUS; (B) DS-4 OF 12/21/77

1. MR. JOHN BELL, STEP-FATHER OF WALTER E. RICH HAS AGAIN ASKED DEPARTMENT TO ASCERTAIN IDENTITY OF PERSON THAT PICKED UP CASHIER'S CHECK AT CITIBANK, NEW DELHI (SUBJECT OF REFERENCE B IN WHICH COPY OF PHOTOCOPY OF CANCELLED CHECK WAS ATTACHED.) ENCLOSURE TO REF (B) WAS CANCELLED CASHIER'S CHECK NUMBER 67598 IN THE AMOUNT OF DOLS 700 DRAWN ON THE MERCHANTS NATIONAL BANK, CEDAR RAPIDS, IOWA DATED OCTOBER 18, 1977 PAYABLE TO ORDER OF WALTER RICH. CANCELLED CHECK RETURNED TO BANK INDICATES THAT IT WAS CASHED IN NEW DELHI, AT CITIBANK AND SIGNED BY WHAT APPEARS TO BE J. NEMNA. MR. BELL NOW QUESTIONS WHO SIGNED FOR THE CHECK AND WHETHER WALTER RICH EVER RECEIVED THE FUNDS. IN LETTER TO DEPARTMENT, MR. BELL QUOTES PART OF LETTER FROM HIS SON QUOTE I LEFT HARDWAR, EIGHT WEEKS AGO
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THINKING MY MAIL COULD BE FORWARDED TO DELHI, BUT APPARENTLY IT HASN'T. ANYWAY NEITHER IS THERE ANY CONNECTION WITH THE FIRST NATIONAL CITY BANK. AFTER HARDWAR, I VISITED DHARAMASALA, THINKING TO STAY A SHORT PERIOD,

WHICH TURNED OUT A BIT LONG, ANYWAY FROM HERE (DHARAMASALA) I WILL GO TO HARDWAR, IF ANY MAIL IS THERE AND THEN

HOPEFULLY RETURN FROM THERE UNQUOTE. MR. BELL INDICATED IN HIS LETTER THAT WALTER'S LETTER DID NOT HAVE A DATE NOR COULD HE READ A POST MARK BUT HE GUESSES THAT LETTER WAS SENT O/A 12/15. THE RETURN ADDRESS OF WALTER'S LETTER WAS QUOTE W. RICH, C/O POST, ANANDA MAYI ASHRAN, KANKAL, HARDWAR, U.P., INDIA UNQUOTE.

2. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE POST MAKING SPECIAL EFFORT TO DETERMINE FROM APPROPRIATE BANK OFFICIAL WHAT BANK RECORDS MAY SHOW REGARDING PERSON WHO CASHED CHECK. PLEASE REPLY BY CABLE. CHRISTOPHER

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